Encyclopaedia Aristasiana

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Aristasian Standards

Aristasia-in-Telluria has certain standards for such things as measurement, spelling and internal monetary systems.

Measurement

Aristasia-in-Telluria uses the Imperial/American system:

For distance: *miles, yards, feet and inches.*

For weight: *Tons, hundredweights, stones, pounds and ounces.*

For volume measure: *Gallons, quarts, pints, gills.*

For temperature: *the Fahrenheit scale.*

The other scale is not recognised and if it *has* to be referred to, is called Centigrade, *not* Celsius.

The Metric, or "S.I." system is strongly deprecated.

The reason for this is that the S.I. was born during the French Revolution and is very specifically a part of the revolutionary rationalist ideology which makes "man the measure of all things". Aristasians believe that the revolutionary and anti-traditional nature of the S.I. is constantly present and that the system is not merely a standard of measurement but a cultural statement of the ideology of the Rationalist Revolution.

Naturally, since no Rationalist Revolution took place in Aristasia, and its science and technics are founded on a non-revolutionary basis of continuity with, rather than severance from, traditional science, no equivalent to the S.I. exists in Aristasia. Its measurements, like all those preceding the Metric System, are derived from ancient sacred measures, founded on the proportions of the universe itself.

The Imperial/American system, while likely not identical to that of Aristasia Pura, is nonetheless of the same family - founded on sacred measure and proportion (thamë) rather

than revolutionary and Promethean rationalism.

To quote a Tellurian traditionalist and scholar of mensuration:

"(..members of the BWMA) are undoubtedly right in standing up for the foot and scorning the atheistic metre ... The present foot is the basic standard behind traditional measures worldwide. It applies equally to the human frame, to the earth's dimensions and to astronomical distances. If you were to regard our traditional system of measures as God-given you would not be far short of the mark." — John Michell

Aristasians-in-Telluria regard the American/Imperial system as the only one possible - or even mentionable in polite company.

Orthography

Traditional British orthography is favored by some Aristasians, as it is seen as being more elegant and closer in spirit to Tradition, and therefore more adequately representative of Raihiralan Westrenne (high-Westrenne speech and writing in Aristasia Pura). American spelling is, however, fully recognized, and argued for by some Aristasians, and seems to be gaining ground in post-Bridgehead Aristasia.

For Aristasian Standards in spoken English see Aristasian Speech.

Money

The Sovereigns (or Crowns) Shillings and Pence system is the traditional one for Aristasia. In Britain, Aristasians speak in the £sd style, because British "metric money" is seen as a mark of the Pit and its (verbal) use is deprecated. The same applies to "Euros" (colloquially termed "Octomarks" in Aristasia-in-Telluria). American dollars and cents, being of older lineage and stemming from a milder form of revolutionary rationalism, are not deprecated in verbal usage.

Aristasian Money is sometimes used physically at District events such as Kinemas and would doubtless form the basis of any virtual currency employed in a future Aristasian Virtual Reality.

See Also

The Philosophy of Numbers and Measurements

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